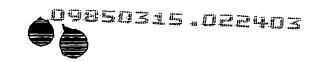


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Please add the following Abstract:

ABSTRACT

A silencer for connection to the air intake of a machine such as a turbocharger compressor. The silencer comprises a housing containing a plurality of axially spaced annular noise attenuating baffles. Each baffle has an outer circumference and an inner circumference defining a central aperture, the central apertures of each baffle collectively defining an axial outlet flow passage to an outlet aperture.

The baffles define a series of axially spaced generally annular partial flow passages such that air flowing through the silencer is initially split and then merges into the axial outlet passage. Each of the annular flow passages curves radially inwards from its outer to its inner circumference in a direction towards the axial. Additionally, or alternatively, the dimensions of the annular partial flow passages vary so that the velocity of air flow through the passages is greater for passages closer to the axial outlet aperture.

In view of the amendment above, consideration of the merits of this case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted

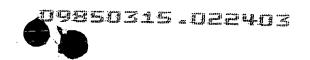
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